



4.10 TRAVEL

General

These Rules are established in accordance with an “Accountable Plan” as defined by the Internal Revenue Service to govern the eligibility for, and payment of, expenses incurred by City Officers, employees, members of boards and commissions, and others during authorized travel directly related to City business. Expenses are to be part of each bureau's annual budget, weighed against other possible uses of the same resources. All travel must be authorized by the Elected Official in charge, who may delegate such approval authority to his/her office staff or designated Bureau Directors.

Authorized Travel- Generally

Travel for City business may include conventions, conferences, meetings of professional associations, training, and meetings with others from which the City will derive benefit through the attendance of a representative. All requests to incur City travel costs must identify the benefit to the City.

Authorized Expenses - Generally

City officials and employees should exercise good judgement, regard for economy, and recognition of proper use of public monies while traveling or incurring expenses in connection with City business. Any expense requested for reimbursement or payment by the City must be documented to be directly and clearly related to the conduct of City business. Expenses to be paid or reimbursed by the City may include: transportation to and from destination, lodging, meals, local transportation at the destination - if required, parking fees, one brief personal long distance call per day, and necessary special expenses required to transact City business, such as telephone, postage, or supplies. Reimbursement will be by receipt or contemporaneous record of actual cost only; meal and incidentals reimbursement will be by per diem.

Personal Use of Travel Incentives Prohibited

Personal use of travel incentives earned from travel arrangements purchased by the City or reimbursed by the City is prohibited. Travel incentives include, but are not limited to, frequent flyer miles for air travel, “bonus” miles, miles provided by credit card companies for purchases (such as hotel lodging) and compensation for the inconvenience of being “bumped” off a flight that is overbooked (such as a coupon for future travel). Any travel incentives earned because of travel on behalf of the City, that has been paid for by the City, cannot be used for personal travel.

Lodging or meal vouchers received because of a delay in travel are not included in this prohibition.

Development of Travel Rules

The Office of Management and Finance is directed by Council to develop travel rules and procedures that clarify and define more precisely the principles expressed in this Administrative Rule. These implementing rules and procedures shall be sent to the Council for review and adoption.

The Office of Management and Finance shall maintain the authority to periodically review and make recommendations to revise the travel rules.

[FIN 6.13 Travel](#) and the [Travel Policies and Procedures](#) are incorporated into this Administrative Rule by reference.

Requests for payment or reimbursement for items outlined in the [Travel Policies and Procedures](#) shall be reviewed by Appropriation Unit accounting staff before payment is made. Office of Management and Finance, Accounting Division, and the City Auditor may periodically review for compliance with established rules and procedures. Expenditure records shall be accessible to the media and citizen inquiry. Expense reimbursements will not be made available where supporting expense documentation is not submitted in accordance with the [Travel Policies and Procedures](#). Employees not providing a proper accounting of their travel may be denied future travel.

Use of Private Vehicle for Travel

See Transportation section of the [Travel Policies and Procedures](#), Private Vehicle Use

Coordinating Travel

Travel must be coordinated and purchased with one or more designated City travel agencies. [Procurement Services](#) is directed to periodically recommend selection of one or more designated City travel agencies.

Auditing of Travel

Requests for payment/reimbursement for items covered by this rule and the [Travel Policies and Procedures](#) shall be reviewed by the Accounting Division of the Office of Management and Finance and the Auditor's Office before payment is made. Expenditure records shall be accessible to the media and citizen inquiry.

Administrative Rule History

Adopted by Council March 6, 2002, Ordinance No. 176302
Effective April 5, 2002
Revised October 24, 2003
Revised July 9, 2007
